

Weather Forecast
Clearing, windy and colder tonight. To-morrow fair and continued cold.
Temperatures today—Highest, 38, at 1:30 p.m.; lowest, 31, at 3:22 a.m. Yesterday—Highest, 39, at 12:01 a.m.; lowest, 28, at 8:35 a.m.

Late New York Markets, Page A-23.

The Evening Star

WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

Guide for Readers

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WASHINGTON, D. C., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1944—FORTY-EIGHT PAGES. ★★

First Army Launches New Attack Toward Rhine River Below Duren; Large B-29 Force Bombs Nagoya

Yanks Reach Roer On Both Sides of Fortress Town

BULLETIN.
PARIS (AP).—American 1st Army troops today cleared the Germans from a 5-mile stretch of the west bank of the Roer River and, in their new drive southwest of Duren, advanced up to 2 miles and captured three villages.

(Map on Page A-2.)

By the Associated Press.
PARIS, Dec. 13.—American armies today closed up to the Roer River on both sides of Duren, trained their artillery on large sections of German defenses inside the Bavarian Palatinate and fought slowly deeper into the Siegfried Line inside the Saarland.

The southern wing of Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' 1st Army sprang into action before dawn, sloshing eastward toward the Rhine city of Bonn in an attack beyond the Hurtgen Forest southwest of Duren.

In less than three hours, Hodges' muddy riflemen had advanced more than a mile and entered the village of Rollesbroich, 13 miles southwest of Duren and 35 west of Bonn. The advance was between the Hurtgen and Monschau Forests and was 4 1/2 miles east of Rotgen, first German town conquered by American troops. A little farther north, other units of the 1st Army were within 28 miles of Bonn, which has a population of 101,000. Bonn lies 15 miles southeast of Cologne.

Yanks Oppose New Nazi Army.

It may now be disclosed that the Germans have pitted their new 5th Panzer (Tank) Army against the 1st Army. The commander is Gen. Hasso Eckardt von Manteuffel, 47, veteran of the siege of Bizerte in North Africa. His army includes armored units, regular infantry and Volksgrenadier troops.

The last infested cellars west of the Roer were being cleared by the 1st Army. A few Germans during the night filtered back into Derichweiler, Eys and Mariaweller, virtually suburbs of Duren, and these were being blasted from the cold mud.

St. Jeanne d'Arc, last holdout fortress in the Metz area, 30 miles behind the front, surrendered during the day.

Between them, the 1st Army and Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3d Army captured 1,521 Germans yesterday, swelling the total of four American armies and one French Army in the current campaign to 78,860. Since 13 day nearly 765,000 have been caged.

Offensive Front Doubled.

The new drive by the southern wing of the 1st Army doubled its offensive front to 20 miles. At

Weird Silvery Balls Floating in Air Are New Nazi War Device

By the Associated Press.
PARIS, Dec. 13.—As the Allied armies ground out new gains on the western front today, the Germans were disclosed to have thrown a new "device" into the war—mysterious silvery balls which float in the air.

Pilots report seeing these objects, both individually and in clusters, during forays over the Reich.

The purpose of the floaters was not immediately evident. It is possible that they represent a new antiaircraft defense instrument or weapon.

This dispatch was heavily censored at supreme headquarters.

Rollesbroich, the Americans were 2 1/2 miles from the Roer. The river winds through Western Germany for 125 miles, and the Germans are at Roermond, opposite which the British 2d Army has held a front for several weeks.

Swift advances by Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's 7th Army in the Karlsruhe corner brought the German front within sight at many points and placed great sections of the Siegfried Line works within short artillery range. Vandegrift were within 15 miles of Karlsruhe.

Six miles inside the industrial Saarland, Gen. Patton's 3d Army shouldered its way through another 700 yards of Fraulautern, winning half that town a mile north of Saarlautern. Repeated counterattacks were broken 3 miles north of Dillingen and additional Nazi pillboxes were captured.

Reich Entered At New Point.
The Third Army moved across the German frontier anew, spanning the flooded Elbes River and capturing Habkirchen, 3 miles northeast of Sarreguemines.

Virtually all the Germans except sacrificial units had been driven behind the Roer, which normally is only about 120 feet wide at Duren. Most of that ruined industrial city lies east of the river, and there was no sign of an immediate American attempt to cross the river.

Below Duren the Hurtgen Forest had been left behind after a lengthy blood bath which started in mid-October.

German broadcasts continued to reflect concern about Gen. Patch's drive toward the Palatinate, the (See WESTERN FRONT, Page A-2)

Bevin Says Roosevelt Agreed To British and Soviet Spheres

Agreement Declared Reached on Greece And Romania

By the Associated Press.
LONDON, Dec. 13.—Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labor, indicated today that Britain and Russia—with President Roosevelt's okay—were establishing separate spheres of influence in liberated Europe.

Replying to contentions that Britain was acting in Greece at cross-purposes with her Allies, Mr. Bevin told the annual Labor party conference:

"Long before this we had an agreement with Russia whereby Russia undertook the main problem of Romania and we undertook the main problem of Greece."

"This agreement was taken to Quebec, submitted to President Roosevelt and agreed to and initiated by him."

The party conference called on the government to take steps to bring about an immediate armistice in Greece. It avoided any direct (See LABOR PARTY, Page A-3.)

ELAS Vainly Attack British Barracks Near Athens' Center

By the Associated Press.
ATHENS, Dec. 13.—ELAS troops staged strong but unsuccessful attacks against the center of Athens during the night, even while their leaders were debating British orders to cease fighting.

The strongest assault was aimed at a British barracks northeast of the heart of the capital on the Kifissia road.

(A British communique broadcast from Athens said further British reinforcements had gone into action, that some progress had been made against the ELAS in Piraeus, port of Athens, and that RAF planes silenced one ELAS 75-millimeter gun firing on Central Athens.)

Maj. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, still awaited a reply to his cease-firing terms to the ELAS, and there were indications the leftist leaders were wavering in the fight to force the (See GREECE, Page A-5.)

Ninth Jap Convoy Sunk Off Leyte, Increasing Losses to 30,000

5 Transports, 4 Warships Attacked for 36 Hours By American Planes

By the Associated Press.
GEN. MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Dec. 13.—Additional thousands of Japanese troops were drowned off Western Leyte Monday and yesterday in new sinkings of reinforcement convoys in Philippine seas. So far these actions have claimed in excess of 30,000 enemy soldiers.

The latest losses occurred as American planes attacked for 36 hours, accounted for five transports and four destroyers of an 11-ship convoy despite the terrific battle put up by covering fighter aircraft. Night-prowling patrol-torpedo boats blasted a sixth transport, leaving only a destroyer to the convoy to get away unscathed.

Gen. MacArthur, who previously had told of the sinking eight other convoys, said today concerning the ninth convoy:

"Enemy troop losses by drowning are believed to be very heavy."

Convoy Spotted Monday.
The six transports and five destroyers were spotted Monday at dawn off Northwest Leyte.

During the day Army and Marine planes, boring through swarms of Japanese fighters over the convoy, sank three destroyers, a transport of 10,000 tons, a second of 5,000 tons and a third of 4,000 tons.

That night two patrol-torpedo boats, commanded by Lt. John M. McElfresh, Olean, N. Y., and Lt. Melvin W. Haines, Evanston, Ill., sent down a 5,000-ton transport of the convoy at anchor at Palompon, Palompon, connected by a poor, winding trail to the Ormoc corridor, is the last supply port for the Japanese since the loss of Ormoc, 16 miles to the southeast.

Yesterday at Palompon, Yank planes so severely blasted a fourth destroyer and two freighters—transports that all probably sank.

U. S. Convoy Damaged.
A Japanese air force not only made a stiff fight over the convoy but also scored some damaging blows against an American supply convoy Sunday night as it was retiring from Ormoc after unloading.

"Fifty enemy planes were destroyed in combat with five additional 'probable,' today's communique said.

"We lost eight fighters." Japan has lost over 1,000 planes in the fight for Leyte. The reinforcement convoy losses to date total 39 transports and 28 escorting warships.

Still plagued by rains, Yank ground forces on West Leyte maintained pressure on Lt. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita's defenders below Limon in the north sector of the Ormoc corridor. At the south end, the 32d Infantry Division southbound from Limon and the 77th and 7th in position to strike north from Ormoc.

Seven American Ships Sunk, Japanese Claim

By the Associated Press.
Unconfirmed claims of sinking two destroyers, two medium-sized transports and three torpedo boats in Philippine waters were broadcast by the Japanese radio today.

A Dornier broadcast, corded by the Federal Communications Commission, said one destroyer and the two medium transports were part of a convoy of 12 transports and 5 destroyers attacked by the "special attack corps" off Baybay on the west coast of Leyte Island Tuesday (Manila time).

Hayes Resigns Post At Madrid; Armour Named as Successor

Steinhardt Is Given Czech Assignment In Diplomatic Shifts

By the Associated Press.
The White House today announced the resignation of Carlton J. H. Hayes as Ambassador to Spain and the nomination of Norman Armour to replace him. Mr. Armour is acting director of the State Department's Office of American Republic Affairs. At the recent appointment of Secretary of State Stettinius and the reshuffling of department positions, President Roosevelt announced he would give Mr. Armour a new position.

Mr. Armour formerly was Ambassador to Argentina. He was recalled several months ago when United States-Argentina relations became strained.

The President, in another diplomatic shift, nominated Laurence A. Steinhardt, Ambassador to Turkey, as Ambassador to the Czech government in exile in London. The Turkish assignment was left open.

Chairman Connally of the Senate Relations Committee said it was his understanding that Mr. Hayes is leaving the diplomatic service and returning to Columbia University.

Mr. Hayes went to Spain as Ambassador two years ago. He and the British Ambassador, Sir Samuel Hoare, were the chief negotiators of the Allied-Spanish deal by which Spain sent shipments of wolfram to Germany to a mere trickle.

Recently he has been the target of criticism from some groups here who contended he was inclined to deal too leniently with the Franco government.

Before entering the diplomatic service he was Seth Low professor of history at Columbia.

Japs Claim Occupation Of Tiny Isle Near Ormoc

By the Associated Press.
Tokyo radio said last night a Japanese force "completely occupied" Ponson Island in the Camotes Sea last Friday and thus "frustrated an enemy plan to use that island as a base for his torpedo boats." There was no Allied confirmation.

Ponson is a tiny dot of land in Ormoc Bay, which now is under American control. There has been no indication of Japanese troops ever having taken the islet.

The broadcast in English to North America was recorded by the Federal Communications Commission.

High British Military Award Is Won by Son of Col. Dupuy

Officer Risked Life To Warn Chinese of Impending Attack

By the Associated Press.
Lt. Col. Trevor Dupuy, 28, son of Col. Ernest Dupuy, public relations officer at Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters in Paris, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Order, Britain's second highest military award, for valor, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Burma, where he is stationed.

Col. Dupuy's mother, who lives at 2719 Dumbarton avenue, N.W., said today she had heard of the award from both Col. Dupuy and her husband, and added that "very proud."

The award, which is exceeded in Britain only by the Victoria Cross among military decorations, was presented by Lt. Gen. Sir Oliver Leese, Allied commander in chief in the Burma theater. The American officer's leadership won high praise from Lt. Gen. Dan I. Sultan,

Japan's Third City Is New Target Of Day Raiders

By the Associated Press.
American Super Fortresses in force smashed at vulnerable and heavily industrialized Nagoya on Japan's main home island of Honshu at midafternoon today (Japanese time).

(In Washington, the air forces refused to give an official figure, but authorized statements indicated more than 90 B-29s took off on the bombing mission.)

Nagoya, which has the largest concentration of airplane and airplane parts plants in Japan, is a highly inflammable city which in 1940 had a population of 1,328,084. It is Japan's third city in size, following Tokyo and Osaka.

Associated Press Correspondent Vern Haugland, writing from a 21st Bomber Command base on Saipan, said the B-29 force equalled or exceeded the largest group yet hitting Japan.

Shikoku Attack Reported.
The Japanese radio said B-29s also hit the home island of Shikoku as well as Honshu and Japanese-occupied Korea. They reported "about 80" Super Fortresses flying in "small formations" raided the Tokyo area and Aichi and Shizuoka prefectures, on Honshu, where some damage was caused "on the ground."

The Japanese claimed their interceptors went into action and are "believed to have caused heavy losses to the enemy."

The dispatch from Saipan said the B-29s, upturning enemy defenses, made a feint toward Tokyo and then cut northwest to Nagoya, withdrawing over Nagoya Bay after making their bombing runs.

Where bombing runs on Tokyo were made with the wind at great speed over the target, today's Super Forts went into action in the face of a westerly wind, slowing their speed and probably increasing the accuracy of their bombing.

Planes Fly Lower.
The planes also flew 3,000 to 4,000 feet lower than they did in the Tokyo raids, flying under the cirrus cloud layer to avoid leaving vapor trails.

As Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle's

Bombing of Manor On Palace Grounds Reported by Japs

By the Associated Press.
MELBOURNE, Dec. 13.—Taketo Ogata, president of the Japanese Information Bureau, in a broadcast from Japan today, said bombs had caused damage to a manor on the Imperial Palace grounds.

The broadcast, recorded by the Australian Department of Information, said:

"The enemy has raided us from time to time and bombs have even exploded at the seat of the Imperial Palace, causing damage to a manor."

American pilots have been instructed not to bomb the palace, and the Japanese report was not borne out by information from any other source.

raiders did more than two years ago, the B-29s employed the great Nagoya Castle, on the city's highest ground about 7 miles north of the docks area, as a landmark.

Down town Nagoya's commercial district has few buildings higher than two or three stories except the eight and nine story government offices, banks and stores.

In 1938 the city had 315,402 wood and plaster buildings and only 662 of concrete or brick. It has large clusters of factories on the water front and in the northwest and northeast suburbs. The central commercial district, just south southeast of the castle's eastern side, is confined mostly to residential districts.

3,000-Mile Round-Trip Flight.
Today's flight involved a round trip of about 3,000 miles, 300 to 400 miles less than required to reach Tokyo, which is 165 air miles to the (See SUPER FORTRESS, Page A-3.)



Priorities Are Blamed By Hurley for Firm's Faulty Navy Lockers

Committee Will Vote Today on Nominations To Property Board

By the Associated Press.
Former Gov. Robert Hurley of Connecticut today blamed lack of materials and exacting Navy specifications for the Narragansett Machine Co.'s failure to complete a Navy contract for lockers.

Mr. Hurley, former vice president of the Narragansett Machine Co., was questioned at a Senate Military Affairs Committee hearing in his nomination, along with that of Lt. Col. Edward Heller, to be a member of the Surplus War Property Board.

The committee expects to vote on the nominations late today.

Priorities Troubles Cited.
Mr. Hurley, who was in charge of production at Narragansett, acknowledged that the company had been unable to complete the locker contract and that the few lockers which had been produced were rejected as defective.

He said the firm applied for a materials priority before the locker order was placed but that it was not granted until November 23 after he had made a trip to Washington to expedite action.

All of the 1,572 lockers ordered, he said, were to be delivered by February 15, but Navy officials told him in November that he probably could not get materials until February. Mr. Hurley said the company had "great difficulty" in obtaining the materials it did get.

Defects Record.
A Navy official testified yesterday that 10 lockers which the company had made or partly completed by March were rejected because they were badly warped, poorly welded and did not meet Navy specifications.

Mr. Hurley told the committee that he did not believe "any one could manufacture those lockers" according to the specifications.

Defending the company's war record, he said it had successfully completed 79 other Navy contracts amounting to several millions of dollars.

"We at Narragansett," he said, "have been trying to aid the war effort in every way."

Major Leagues Approve Unlimited Night Games

(Earlier Story on Page A-20.)
By the Associated Press.
NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Both major leagues approved unlimited night baseball for 1945 in today's joint session and voted to prohibit a club from renting its park for football games before the close of the regular baseball season.

The proposed increase in the draft price to \$10,000 for Class AA clubs and the amendment giving minor leagues increased territorial protection were rejected. The two amendments had been passed by the minors at Buffalo last week.

Big league player limits were increased from 40 to 45 and the active lists from 25 to 30, provided that the additions are returning servicemen. All major league clubs were voted permission to option as many as 20 players. The old limit was 15.

Allies Block Landing On Isle Near Rhodes

By the Associated Press.
ROME, Dec. 13.—Three enemy landing craft have been blocked in an attempt to land forces on the small island of Symi, 15 miles north of Rhodes in the Eastern Mediterranean. Allied headquarters announced today.

Bulletin

Steel Industry Plea Denied

The War Labor Board today denied the petition of 73 steel companies for reconsideration of the board's decision in the "basic steel" wage case, under which certain wage adjustments were granted to 485,000 steel workers.

Chinese Gain 10 Miles In Pursuing Japs

By the Associated Press.
CHUNGKING, Dec. 13.—Chinese troops have driven more than 20 miles into Kwangsi Province in pursuit of Japanese forces retreating westward from Kweichow Province and are about 15 miles from Hochih, the Chinese high command announced today.

This represented an overnight advance of about 10 miles on the part of the Chinese, who are moving down the Kweichow-Kwangsi railway. Hochih is about 95 miles from Luichow, former site of an important American air base.

'E' Bond Sales Here Reach \$17,600,000, 58.7 Pct. of Goal

Overall Campaign Total Now Over 106 Millions, 112.8 Pct. of Quota

Sales of series "E" bonds in the District's Sixth War Loan drive have advanced to \$17,600,000, or 58.7 per cent of the \$30,000,000 "E" bond quota, the District War Finance Committee announced today.

Total sales in the drive for \$94,000,000 are now \$106,100,000, or 112.8 per cent of the quota. Corporation sales, which insured the drive going over the top by a large oversubscription of the \$48,000,000 quota, rose to \$74,100,000, or 154.4 per cent of the quota. Total sales to individuals, including "E" bonds and bonds of larger issue sold to individuals, are up to \$32,000,000, or 66.6 per cent of the \$48,000,000 quota.

Expects "E" Bond Sales Advance.
Wilmer J. Waller, chairman of the drive, said "unofficial information indicates that reports of 'E' bond sales will advance materially during the balance of this week."

The drive officially ends Saturday. Yesterday Mr. Waller called the 25 District War Finance Committee division heads together to plan the final sprint which may put the "E" bond quota over the top.

He stressed the importance of selling "E" bonds to be given as Christmas gifts. Bonds, he reminded, are the gifts which will do the most to restore the Christmas spirit of "peace on earth, good will to men."

Improving "E" bond sales in the Nation's drive reached \$14,000,000, with a quota of \$25,000,000. Total sales announced at \$15,496,000, with the quota of \$14,000,000.

Yesterday Mr. Waller announced they felt the chances of reaching \$11,882,000, with a quota of \$9,000,000. Total sales were announced at \$15,496,000, with the quota of \$14,000,000.

While a few furies continued in the mountains of Maryland and Virginia, skies were clearing over most of the two States today.

The temperature in Washington (See WEATHER, Page A-3.)

Army Will Buy More Cigarettes; Civilian Supply to Sink Further

By the Associated Press.
Senators heard today that the cigarette shortage may become more acute in 1945.

Col. Fred C. Foy, director of purchases for the Army Service Forces, told the Senate War Investigating Committee that anticipated Army purchases "point to a demand on the cigarette industry in excess of that being placed upon it currently."

The committee, trying to find out what has become of history's great Col. Foy, the current shortage "may flow in part" from increased Army procurement.

While cigarettes have been either scarce or nonobtainable in many post exchanges in the European theater, the witness said, "this is a direct result" of limited facilities for unloading ships. Food, gasoline and heavy artillery take precedence, he explained.

180,000,000 Packs on Ships.
Actually, Col. Foy said, as of October 31, there were 3,800,000,000 cigarettes—180,000,000 packs—in various foreign waters awaiting discharge.

He estimated that the Army will have taken approximately 85,000,000 cigarettes out of a total 1944 production of 330,000,000, although it could use 77,000,000,000.

Storm Deaths Reach 83 in U. S. and Canada; Relief Is Promised

West Virginia Reports 36-Inch Snowfall; Low In 20s Forecast Here

(Pictures on Page A-3.)
By the Associated Press.
A measure of relief from the season's most severe snowstorm was forecast by the Weather Bureau today as a vast section of the Nation resumed the herculean task of removing huge banks of snow from streets and highways.

While snow still fell in several Eastern sections—already having reached a depth of 36 inches in West Virginia—the bureau predicted a cessation before nightfall. Meanwhile, temperatures dropped over the Midwest and the same pattern was forecast for the East tomorrow.

The death toll from the storm, which extended from Colorado to the Atlantic seaboard and into Southern States, was 83, while in Ohio 20 persons lost their lives from causes directly attributed to a storm which centered in Ontario.

Strikes Wide Area.
The storm which struck the Midwest during the week end spent its fury in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and New York State, although the whole East Coast and the Southern tier of States were affected.

The outlook for Washington, which was by-passed by the snowstorms of the last two days, is for clearing, windy and somewhat colder weather tonight, with a low early tomorrow in the middle 20s. Tomorrow should be fair and continued cold, the forecaster said.

Ohio reported the most deaths from the storm, 12, while 11 died in Pennsylvania. Five each were reported in Colorado, Missouri and New York. Heaviest snowfalls in the Empire State were 21 inches at Rochester and Jamestown, 20 at Albany and 19 at Buffalo. The country's heaviest fall, however, was 36 inches in Randolph County, W. Va., which experienced its most severe snowstorm in half a century.

A two-coach passenger train which left Charleston for Grafton, W. Va., at 7 a.m. yesterday has been stalled in snowdrifts ever since reaching Elkhurst, 45 miles east of Charleston, the New York Central dispatcher's office reported today.

A second rescue train was sent from here today after a previous train also was stranded in deep drifts, 10 miles short of the passenger train.

While a few furies continued in the mountains of Maryland and Virginia, skies were clearing over most of the two States today.

The temperature in Washington (See WEATHER, Page A-3.)

Clayton Tells Senators About Cotton Deals

Firm's Foreign Sales Described; Hearing to Recall MacLeish

BULLETIN.
The Senate Foreign Relations Committee completed its questioning of Will L. Clayton shortly after 1 p.m. and arranged to reconvene at 2:30 p.m. to hear Archibald MacLeish.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee today conducted a searching inquiry into the views of Will L. Clayton on foreign economic problems and postwar international trade.

The 64-year-old former cotton broker, Progressive of Wisconsin, Assistant Secretary of State, was recalled by the committee in its second day of an inquiry into six State Department nominations. One of the other nominees, Archibald MacLeish, also is to be recalled for questioning.

The other appointees include Joseph C. Grew, named as Undersecretary of State, and three other Assistant Secretaries—Nelson Rockefeller, James C. Dunn and Brig. Gen. Julius C. Holmes.

Mr. Clayton was asked particularly about dealings of the cotton firm of Anderson & Clayton Co., with Japan, Germany and Italy. Mr. Clayton left the firm in 1940 when he entered Government service.

Tells of Cotton Sales.
Under questioning by Senator La Follette, Progressive of Wisconsin, Mr. Clayton said the company made its last sale of American cotton to Japan about a year before the attack on Pearl Harbor, but that a Peruvian subsidiary made a sale to the Japanese about three months before Pearl Harbor.

Moving around to a seat near Mr. Clayton's elbow, Senator La Follette opened a big, thick envelope which he said contained restricted documents obtained from certain Federal agencies under an injunction of secrecy. He explained that the committee had ruled they could be used as the basis for his questions, although they were not to be put into the hearing record.

Senator La Follette asked about Anderson-Clayton's dealings with Italian customers during the outbreak of the war in Europe in 1939. Mr. Clayton said that while shipments were made to Italy prior to her entry into the struggle, the company worked very closely with the British, who had adopted a strict control of shipping, with sales made only to firms which, in the estimation of both Anderson-Clayton and the British, intended the cotton for their own use and not for re